

King County Community and Human Services

Office of the Public Defender (OPD) – Summary Dashboard Report

Data through June 30, 2011

Product Measures

	2 nd Qtr	2011 YTD
# of cases assigned	6,181	12,464
# of clients assigned	5,659	11,356
# of clients screened	2,775	5,640
# of promissory notes issued	2,064	4,174
Total promissory notes	\$225,584	\$456,711
# of expert requests received	722	1,354
% of expert requests approved by OPD	90%	90%

Product Improvements

Case Assignment & Credit Processing: After a series of staff operations meetings with juvenile offender and dependency staff, several adjustments to procedure to the assignment and credit processing procedures were made. A form was created to better explain contract requirements which reduced the number of questions by contract agencies when credits are denied and reduced the number of credit requests erroneously submitted.

Electronic Assignments: OPD working with contractors to implement sending Assignment Sheets via email rather than printing and having contractors pick up hard copies from OPD office. Targeted to start Fall 2011.

Continuing Legal Education Updates

Thirty-one public defense attorneys attended OPD's fourth annual three-day trial advocacy training in May. Evaluations were overwhelmingly positive. One attorney commented, "This was one of the few CLEs I've ever attended which I left with new, immediately useable info and skills." Another attorney stated, "I can say without reservation that these seminars have noticeably raised the quality of defense lawyering in King County."

Other Notable Items

Pending aggravated murder cases: C. Monfort pending case, M. Anderson, J. McEnroe are pending trial, I. Kalebu completed. G. Ridgway was charged and convicted in January on one count of Aggravated Murder, and sentenced to Life without Parole. Co-defendants in triple homicide, Avila-Cardenas & Velez-Fombona were briefly ordered staffed as death penalty cases.

Business Plan Performance Measures

Contract Period 7/1/10 – 6/30/11	Status	Hist. Avg	2010 Target	2010 Jan-Dec Actual	10-11 Contract Actual	Bench mark
Felony variance	▼	2.28%	≤ 0%	2.4%	2.40%	
Misdemeanor variance	▼	6.95%	≤ 0%	20.5%	7.9%	
Juvenile variance	▼	2.32%	≤ 0%	-9.3%	-13.04%	
Dependency variance	▲	2.15%	≤ 0%	0.0%	0.46%	
Avg days to IC felony assignments	▲	.77	≤ 1 day	.80	.90	
# of complaints received and % determined to be valid	▲	93/2%	100/0%	87/1%	47/2%	--/10%
% of clients contacted within contract guidelines	▲	77% IC 93% OC	100%	94% IC 100%OC	annual site visit	

Other Performance Measures

Becca variance	▲	3.16%	≤ 0%	2.0%	0%	
ITA variance	▼	21.92%	≤ 0%	17.4%	20.97%	

Improving –Target achievable = ▲ Unfavorable Trend–Target not attainable = ▼ Watch–Target at risk = ◆

Division Director's Message

There are several issues from the end of 2010 which will impact the OPD budget for 2011 and 2012:

- Interim case weighting, extraordinary case credits, persistent offender credits, and extra credits allowed on felony cases in 2010 were the equivalent of 14.9 FTE additional defense counsel funding. Contractors are increasing the use of Interim Case Weighting credits.
- Truancy case projections will be impacted by the Washington Supreme Court decision in Bellevue School District v. E.S., issued June 9, 2011. Adjusted caseload projections and costs have been included in amendments to the 2011-2012 Public Defense contracts.
- Washington State Patrol (WSP) troopers for increased DUI patrols were added effective 7/1/10. This will likely increase the number of DUI cases in the county by 1,200 per year, with OPD receiving at least half of those and appointing counsel at the rate of about 60 to 75% of DUI's filed. Recent reports from the WSP and District Courts indicates increase in filings consistent with OPD estimates,
- Backlog of felonies, misdemeanor and DUI cases at the PAO, equivalent to 5 defense attorney caseloads.
- Juvenile offender filing practices changed on misdemeanor cases including a pre-filing diversion pilot project.
- Continued increase in ITA cases.
- WA Supreme Court is considering approving standards for indigent defense that will have a policy and fiscal impact on King County.

Actual variances are relevant only at the end of each contract (June 30 reconciled variances). Quarterly variances or end-of-calendar-year variances are interim measurements only.

Definitions

Becca: Juveniles charged under the Becca Bill
Dependency: Child dependency hearings on parental rights
IC: In custody
ICW: Interim Case Weighting
ITA: Involuntary Treatment Act hearings
OC: Out of custody
COC: Contempt of court hearings
Misd: King County Misdemeanor

Interim Case Weighting Review

Period: July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2011

Agency Disparities: NDA is #1 in Hourly Credits but has smallest contract

■ ICW Hourly ■ ICW Assignments

NDA	524	225	(Tot 749)
SCR	99	360	(Tot 459)
TDA	297	395	(Tot 692)
ACA	381	435	(Total 816)

TDA leads in approved Extra Credits

■ EXTROD ■ 3STRIK

SCR	311	109	(Tot 420)
NDA	314	116	(Tot 430)
ACA	288	237	(Tot 525)
TDA	735	974	(Tot 1709)

**300 Extra Credits Issued on 697 cases
nds over 34 additional FTE attorneys**

SCR	879
NDA	1179
ACA	1341
TDA	2401